



New Hampshire Veterans Home
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**New Hampshire Veterans Home Making Final Preparations for the Third Annual Motorcycle
Poker Run on Saturday, June 10, 2006 -
Arthur Brown, a local World War II veteran who is leading volunteer efforts from aboard his
motorcycle, encourages all riders to join in this fundraising effort**

TILTON, NH – May 26, 2006 – The New Hampshire Veterans Home welcomes all riders to kick off Laconia Motorcycle Week by participating in the Third Annual Motorcycle Poker Run to be held on Saturday, June 10, 2006. Registration will take place from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at the New Hampshire Veterans Home located at 139 Winter Street in Tilton. All money raised will be contributed to the NHVH Benefit Fund to support quality of life initiatives for the home's residents. Such programs are focused on creating the most homelike atmosphere through a variety of activities, entertainment, outings and equipment.

The minimum donation is \$25.00 per motorcycle and \$15.00 per passenger. Participants are also encouraged to obtain individual sponsorships through family and friends who wish to join them in "Riding for those who served". Rider registration and sponsor forms are available online at www.nh.gov/veterans or participants may register on site on the day of the event. Riders and/or passengers who obtain \$100.00 in sponsorships will receive a free event t-shirt. There will be cash prizes ranging from \$100 - \$500 awarded for best and worst poker hands as well as a 50/50 raffle.

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“Joining us for the third year in a row is Arthur Brown, a World War II veteran from Gilmanton, NH who leads our volunteer efforts from aboard his motorcycle. Arthur, who is 82-years young, has distributed several hundred event flyers, and he also will be a participant in the poker run. He has so many good ideas for improving the poker run, and he really inspires all of us”, explained Lisa Perry, NHVH Volunteer Coordinator.

Mr. Brown is proud of having served his country during World War II, but he is quick to point out that he was one of many who contributed and that his efforts pale in comparison to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Arthur served in the Navy aboard the USS Bullard where he earned nine major battle stars for his service. During the war, Arthur had numerous opportunities to witness the very best and the very worst in people. Arthur’s experiences during World War II continue to inspire his efforts to assist fellow veterans despite his own struggles with a service connected disability.

“It is really very simple. I enjoy helping veterans, and I think it is important for me to do so”, Arthur humbly explained at a recent gathering of the New Hampshire Veterans Home Poker Run Planning Team.

Last year, over 200 participants joined with residents, staff and volunteers for a scenic 90-mile journey around Lake Winnepesaukee. Following the ride, participants will enjoy a catered awards luncheon under the veterans home’s picnic pavilion. Registration and rider sponsor forms are available online at www.nh.gov/veterans or participants may sign up on the day of the event – Saturday, June 10, 2006. The Third Annual NHVH Motorcycle Poker Run is sponsored by Arch Equipment & Truck, LLC; Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve; McLane Company; DOBLES Chevrolet-Buick-Hummer; Nam Knights Motorcycle Club; American Legion Auxiliary - Unit 32; Patriot Chemical; The Welch Rabbit; and by anonymous sponsors who wished to “honor all veterans” with their support. If you would like to volunteer or contribute to this year’s event, please contact Lisa-Marie Mulkern at 603-527-4400 or via e-mail at lisa-marie.mulkern@nhvh.nh.gov

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Photo caption: Arthur Brown, 82-year old World War II veteran and volunteer for the New Hampshire Veterans Home Motorcycle Poker Run, will be planning and attending the third annual event on Saturday, June 10, 2006. Arthur volunteers with publicity and planning and also rides in the event while his wife Nan Brown, also pictured, assists with registration.

About the New Hampshire Veterans Home

The New Hampshire Veterans Home (“NHVH”) was initially established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier’s Home for Civil War Veterans. Today, the modern facility in its countryside setting is home to men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State’s elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.

As a professional health care provider, NHVH offers a full range of services including residential, medical/dental and nursing care as well as physical/occupational therapy, recreation, and dietetic and social services. Chapel services, exercise groups, arts and crafts, shopping trips, live entertainment and various community outings support residents’ quality of life. NHVH also offers inter-generational programs and animal-assisted recreational therapy.

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Dedicated staff members work in partnership with volunteers from surrounding communities and numerous veteran service organizations to enrich our residents' lives. In 2004, NHVH opened the 100-person Life Enhancement Dementia Unit to serve the long-term care needs of veterans who suffer from Alzheimer's and other related memory impairment disorders. The facility addition will enable NHVH to provide comprehensive long-term care services to a total of 250 Residents.

Additional information is available online at our website www.nh.gov/veterans

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